

I commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from cancer and to improve the lives of those 1.3 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer in 2003.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two treaties which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 274. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 162. An act to provide for the use and distribution of certain funds awarded to the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 149. Concurrent resolution expressing the support for the celebration of Patriots' Day and honoring the Nation's first patriots.

H. Con. Res. 156. Concurrent resolution extending congratulations to the United States Capitol Police on the occasion of its 175th anniversary and expressing gratitude to the men and women of the United States Capitol Police and their families for their devotion to duty and service in safeguarding the freedoms of the American people.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 274. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the property in Cecil County, Maryland, known as Garrett Island for inclusion in the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 149. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the celebration of Patriots' Day and honoring the Nation's first patriots; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 14. A bill to enhance the energy security of the United States, and for other purposes.

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

H.J. Res. 51. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1982. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update Notice (Notice 2003-23)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1983. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Estimated Tax Payments (Rev. Rul. 2003-34)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1984. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Abusive Offshore Deferred Compensation Arrangements (Notice 2003-22)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1985. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bureau of Labor Statistics Price Indexes for Department Stores—February 2003 (Rev. Rul. 2003-42)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1986. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—May 2003 (Rev. Rul. 2003-45)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1987. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Action on Decision: Coordinated Issue: Contingent Liabilities (AOD 2003-17)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1988. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Significant Reduction in the Rate of Future Benefit Accrual (1545-BA08)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1989. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Overrecovered Fuel Costs (Rev. Rul. 2003-39)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1990. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance Regarding the Active Trade or Business Requirement under Section 355(b) (Rev. Rul. 2003-38)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1991. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Accounting Period Change Term and Condition (Rev. Proc. 2003-34)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1992. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 9100 relief for 338 elections (Rev. Proc. 2003-33)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1993. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tax Return Preparers—Electronic Filing (1545-BC12)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1994. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Depreciation of Tires (Rev. Proc. 2002-27)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1995. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: General Electric Aircraft Engines CT7 Series Turbo-prop Engines; Docket No. 99-NE-48 (2120-AA64) (2003-0168)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1996. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Airbus Model A300B2 and B4 Series Airplanes; and A300 B4-600, B4-600R, and F4-600R Series Airplanes; docket no. 2001-NM-378 (2120-AA64) (2003-0169)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1997. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Raytheon Model Hawker 800XP and 800 Airplanes; docket no. 2001-NM-18 (2120-AA64) (2003-0170)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1998. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Saab Model SAAB SF340A Series Airplanes; Docket no. 2000-NM-420 (2120-AA64) (2003-0171)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1999. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Surface Area Airspace and Modification of Class E Airspace; Jefferson City, MO; CORRECTION (2120-AA66) (2003-0072)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2000. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Emmetsburg, IA; Docket no. 03-ACE-18 (2120-AA66) (2003-0073)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2001. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Circleville, OH; CORRECTION; Docket no. 02-AGL-08 (2120-AA66) (2003-0074)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2002. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Hampton, IA; Docket no. 03-ACE-20 (2120-AA66) (2003-0075)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2003. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Fairmont, NE; Docket no. 03-ACE-1 (2120-AA66) (2003-0078)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2004. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Kookuk, IA; Docket no. 03-ACE-22 (2120-AA66) (2003-0077)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2005. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Hazen, ND; Docket no. 00-AGL-25 (2120-AA66) (2003-0076)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2006. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives: Boeing Model 757-200, 757-200CB, and 757-200PF Series Airplanes; Docket no. 2002-NM-315 (2120-AA64) (2003-0167)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2007. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of Class A, B, C, D, and E, Airspace Areas; Air Traffic Service Routes for Comments; Docket no. FAA-2003-14698 (2120-AH77)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2008. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Part 145 Review: Repair Stations; Correction; Docket No. FAA-1999-5836 (2120-AC38) (2003-0002)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2009. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flightcrew Compartment Access and Door Designs; Docket no. FAA-2001-10770; SFAR 92-5 (2120-AH97)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2010. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protection Against Certain Flights

Within the Territory and Airspace of Iraq; Docket no. FAA-2003-14766; SFAR 77; technical amendment (2120-ZZ41)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2011. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (19); Amdt. No. 3052 (2120-AA65) (2003-0020)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2012. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (48); Amdt. No. 3051 (2120-AA65) (2003-0019)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2013. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Correction; Herington, KS; Docket no. 03-ACE-10 (2120-AA66) (2003-0070)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2014. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class D Airspace; Rome, NY; Delay of Effective Date; Docket no. 02-AEA-13 (2120-AA66) (2003-0071)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2015. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Surface Area Airspace and Modification of Class E Airspace; Jefferson City, MO; docket no. 02-ACE-14 (2120-AA66) (2003-0069)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2016. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D Airspace; and Modification of Class E Airspace; Dubuque, IA; Docket no. 03-ACE-16 (2120-AA66) (2003-0068)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2017. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revocation of Class E Airspace; Brookfield, MO; Docket no. 03-ACE-3 (2120-AA66) (2003-0067)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2018. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Collision Avoidance Systems; Docket no. FAA-2001-10910 (2120-AG90)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2019. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: Wiscasset, ME, Maine Yankee Reactor Pressure Vessel Removal (CGD01-03-019)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2020. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regatta and Marine Parade Regulations; SLR; Miami Beach Super Boat Race, Miami Beach, Florida (CGD07-03-041)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2021. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois (CGD08-02-020) (1625-AA09) (2003-0007)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2022. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regatta and Marine Parade Regulations; SLR; (Including 3 regulations) [CGD05-02-0511] [CGD05-02-056] [CGD05-02-069] (1625-AA08) (2003-0002)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2023. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: Protection of Tank Ships, Puget Sound, WA (CGD13-02-018) (1625-AA00) (2003-0009)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2024. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: Waters Adjacent to San Diego County, CA [COTP San Diego 03-014] (1625-AA00) (2003-0008)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2025. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: Coronado Bay, San Diego, California [COTP San Diego 03-013] (1625-AA00) (2003-0007)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2026. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area: Olympic View Resource Area EPA Superfund Cleanup Site, Commencement Bay, Tacoma, WA (CGD13-02-016) (1625-AA11) (2003-0002)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2027. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area: (Including 2 Regulations) [CGD08-03-014] [CGD09-03-209] (1625-AA11) (2000-0003)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2028. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; (Including 3 Regulations) [CGD01-03-031] [CGD05-03-037] (1625-

AA09) (2003-0009)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2029. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Anchorage Areas/Anchorage Grounds Regulations/Security Zones; Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai, HI (CGD14-03-001)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2030. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: Passenger Vessels, Portland, Maine, Captain of the Port Zone (CGD01-03-001) (1625-AA00) (2003-0011)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2031. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety/Security Zone Regulations: (Including 3 Regulations) [COTP San Juan 03-047] [COPST Southeast Alaska 03-001] [CGD01-03-028] (1625-AA00) (2003-0011)" received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2032. A communication from the Attorney/Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2033. A communication from the Legal Advisor, International Bureau, Federal Communication Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Parts 2, 73, 74, 80, 90, and 97 of the Commission's Rules to Implement Decisions from World Radiocommunication Conferences Concerning Frequency Bands Below 28000 kHz (ET Doc. 02-16, FCC Number 03-39)" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2034. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Requirement for Low-Speed Electric Bicycles (FR Doc. 03-3423, 68 FR 7072)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2035. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 41st Annual Report of the activities of the Federal Maritime Commission for fiscal year 2002, which ended September 30, 2002" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2036. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the certification that Moldova is committed to the courses of action described in section 1203 (d) of the Cooperative Threat Reduction Act of 1993, received on April 25, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2037. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Reserve Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Defense STARBAS Program Management Report, received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2038. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to providing benefits to Veterans, received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2039. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Policy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Cooperative Threat Reduction to Congress Fiscal Year 2004" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2040. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to the Veterans Affairs Department furnishing health care to members of Armed Forces of active duty during and immediately following a national disaster as declared by the President of the United States, received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2041. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Department of Labor's 2002 Finding on the Worst Forms of Child Labor" received on April 24, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2042. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "FY 2002 Management and Performance Highlights" received on April 22, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2043. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of proposed legislation relative to providing permanent, indefinite appropriation to allow the Department of the Treasury's Financial Management Service to reimburse financial institutions directly, received on April 28, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2044. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Twenty-Fifth Annual Report to Congress Pursuant to Section 815 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2045. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Banking and Finance, Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "31 CFR Part 50—Terrorism Risk Insurance Program (1505-AA98)" received on April 16, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Con. Res. 26. A concurrent resolution condemning the punishment of execution by stoning as a gross violation of human rights, and for other purposes.

## EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Foreign Relations:

Treaty Doc. 108-4 Protocols to North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on Accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (Exec. Rept. No. 108-6)

Resolution of ratification as recommended by the Committee on Foreign Relations:

*Resolved (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),*

Section 1. SENATE ADVICE AND CONSENT SUBJECT TO DECLARATIONS AND CONDITIONS.

The Senate advises and consents to the ratification of the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (as defined in section 4(6)), which were opened for signature at Brussels on March 26, 2003, and signed on behalf of the United States of America and other parties to the North Atlantic Treaty, subject to the declarations of section 2 and the conditions of section 3.

### Sec. 2. DECLARATIONS.

The advice and consent of the Senate to ratification of the Protocols to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia is subject to the following declarations:

(1) Reaffirmation that United States Membership in NATO Remains a Vital National Security Interest of the United States. The Senate declares that

(A) for more than 50 years the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has served as the preeminent organization to defend the countries in the North Atlantic area against all external threats;

(B) through common action, the established democracies of North America and Europe that were joined in NATO persevered and prevailed in the task of ensuring the survival of democratic government in Europe and North America throughout the Cold War;

(C) NATO enhances the security of the United States by embedding European states in a process of cooperative security planning, by preventing the destabilizing re-nationalization of European military policies, and by ensuring an ongoing and direct leadership role for the United States in European security affairs;

(D) the responsibility and financial burden of defending the democracies of Europe and North America can be more equitably shared through an alliance in which specific obligations and force goals are met by its members;

(E) the security and prosperity of the United States is enhanced by NATO's collective defense against aggression that may threaten the security of NATO members;

(F) with the advice and consent of the United States Senate, Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic became members of NATO on March 12, 1999;

(G) on May 17, 2002, the Senate adopted the Freedom Consolidation Act of 2001 (S. 1572 of the 107th Congress), and President George W. Bush signed that bill into law on June 10, 2002, which "reaffirms support for continued enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Alliance; designated Slovakia for participation in the Partnership for Peace and eligible to receive certain security assistance under the NATO Participation Act of 1994; [and] authorizes specified amounts of security assistance for [fiscal year] 2002 for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria and Romania"; and

(H) United States membership in NATO remains a vital national security interest of the United States.

(2) Strategic Rationale for NATO Enlargement. The Senate finds that

(A) notwithstanding the collapse of communism in most of Europe and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the United States and its NATO allies face threats to their stability and territorial integrity;

(B) an attack against Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, or